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MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: ☐ Alex H. McRea
Director, Sport Fish Division

DATE : January 9, 1964

FROM: Roger D. Wadman
Management Biologist

SUBJECT: Klawak Highway

On the above date, I attended a meeting at the Alaska Department of Highways in Douglas. Present were John Becker, Chief Road Designer for the Highway Department; Stan Swanson, Ed Huizer, Carl Rosier and myself for Fish and Game.

Basically the problem is that in three locations the proposed highway will border directly upon or be within 50 feet of the Klawak River. This river is known to be the best pink salmon system in Southeast. Over 1 million pinks have been recorded, by weir count, in this system. The system also supports red, chum and silver salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden.

It is deemed especially important that the Department of Highways and the ADF&G reach an agreement suitable to all, not only to protect this large run of fish, but also to set an example of proper highway construction where fisheries are involved. This is the first opportunity ADF&G has had to work with the State Highway Department. The final result of this project will set a precedent not only for Highways but the U.S. Forest Service as well.

The results of the meeting were inconclusive. It was agreed the representatives of both Departments would conduct an on the spot survey, within the next three weeks, to determine if an alternate route, further from the river, could be established.

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Rogers